Secretary Riley's America Back To School Bus Tour Monday, August 28, 2000

## **Speech Points**

- In Mississippi we realize the importance of education.
- 92% of our children are educated in public schools.
- That means we must do all that we can to make sure we have the best public schools possible.
  - o Top notch teachers
    - Raising teacher pay to the Southeastern Average
    - Recruiting students to enter the teaching profession

Computers in every classroom
Internet-accessible
Placing the world at the fingertips of our children

- We are preparing our children to graduate from the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and successfully enter the workforce.
  - o They are the employees of tomorrow
  - o They are the employers of tomorrow

- We are in a world of Technology
  - o We can gain the competitive edge
  - We must change and adapt to remain competitive
- Training and re-training for good paying jobs
  - o Must provide them with the basic skills that will give them a good foundation for the future.
  - o Education is a lifelong process